

Message Text

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17

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 EB-07 AID-05 ACDA-05 SAM-01 OPIC-03

TRSE-00 DHA-02 /099 W

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R 220737Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2162

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMDQBASSY KINSHASA 1440

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

USMISSION USUN NY

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EO 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: KAUNDA ON RHODESIA, ANGOLA, NAMIBIA

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. IN SPEACH SEPT 19 TO ZAMBIAN AIR FORCE PASS OUT
PARADE NEAR LUSAKA, PRESIDENT KAUNDA REAFFIRMED ZAMBIAN
COMMITMENT TO ZIMBABWE LIBERATION MOVEMENT AND WARNED
THAT STRIFE IN ANGOLA AND SIUATION IN RHODESIA AND
NAMIBIA ARE "SOURCE OF GRAVE THREATS TO SECURITY OF
ZAMBIA."

2. PRESIDENT STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT ZAMBIAN COMMITMENT
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TO LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS A

COMMITMENT TO INDIVIDUAL NATIONALIST LEADERS. EXPLAINING THAT "WE ARE SUPPORTING THE OPPRESSED MASSES," PRESIDENT CALLED ON ALL ZIMBABWEANS TO MAINTAIN UNITY "AT THE GRASS ROOTS" AND TO HELP THEIR LEADERS TO REALIZE THE FOLLY OF DIVISION. INTERESTS OF ZIMBABWEAN MAJORITY MUST NOT BE SACRIFICED TO LEADERS' STRUGGLE FOR POWER WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED THROUGH THE ANC. INACTION AND DIVISION SERVE SMITH'S INTERESTS BY BUYING TIME FOR WHITE MINORITY REGIME WHICH EVEN NOW IS MOBILIZING WHITES, ASIANS, AND COLOREDS IN ITS SUPPORT. THOSE WHO INSULT ZAMBIA ARE ALSO AGENTS OF SMITH AND OF IMPERIALISM, PRESIDENT SAID, BUT WITHOUT SINGLING OUT ZANU ELEMENTS AS HE DID IN EULOGY FOR YOUNG LIEUTENANT KILLED IN CLASH WITH ZANU FREEDOM FIGHTERS WEEK BEFORE (LUSAKA 1782).

3. KAUNDA WARNED OF TENSE SITUATION IN STRIFE-TORN ANGOLA, SAYING IMPACT OF THIS ON ZAMBIA'S SECURITY AND ECONOMY IS INCALCULABLE. "SHOULD WE FAIL TO FIND A POLITICAL SOLUTION NOW, ZAMBIANS MUST NOT BE UNDER ANY ILLUSION AS TO THE FAR-REACHING CONSEQUENCES," PRESIDENT ADDED. ZAMBIA HAD DONE ALL POSSIBLE TO REROUTE CARGO FROM CLOSED PORT OF LOBITO BUT "THERE ARE LIMITATIONS TO OUR ENDEAVORS." HE TOLD ZAMBIAN ARMED FORCES THEY MUST BE READY "FOR ANY EVENTUALITIES" BUT DID NOT FURTHER ELABORATE.

4. PRESIDENT SAID THAT NAMIBIA CONTINUES POST "REAL THREAT" TO ZAMBIAN SECURITY. AS LONG AS INDEPENDENCE IS NOT GRANTED TO NAMIBIA, "ZAMBIA MUST ACCEPT ITS COMMITMENT TO THOSE STRUGGLING FOR THEIR FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE." END UNCLASSIFIED

5. COMMENT: PRESIDENT'S REMARKS RE RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA PROBABLY INTENDED IN PART TO REFUTE RECENT REUTERS AND BBC PRESS STORIES FROM LUSAKA (SEPTEL) ALLEGING ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT IS TIGHTENING UP ON MILITARY ACTIVITIES OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND EVEN PLANNING EXPEL SWAPO AND ANC LEADERS FROM COUNTRY. AT SAME TIME KAUNDA IMPLICATION THAT ZAMBIA SUPPORTS ZIMBABWE LIBERATION MOVEMENT BUT NOT NECESSARILY ITS INCUMBENT LEADERSHIP SEEMS MEANT AS WARNING TO LATTER TO RESOLVE ITS DIFFERENCES OR RISK DIMINUTION OF ZAMBIAN COOPERATION AND PERHAPS HOSPITALITY. REFERENCES BY PRESIDENT TO THREAT FROM ANGOLAN CIVIL STRIFE LESS EASILY INTERPRETED BUT PROBABLY REFLECT FEAR THAT FIGHTING THERE MAY SPILL OVER INTO ZAMBIA (AS IT HAD ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION DURING LIBERATION STRUGGLE AGAINST PORTUGUESE). MUCH LESS LIKELY INTERLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRETATION OF PRESIDENT'S REMARKS IS THAT ZAMBIA MIGHT AT SOME POINT BE OBLIGED INTERVENE MILITARILY IN ANGOLA IN ORDER TO REOPEN AND SECURE ITS ACCESS TO LOBITO. ZAMBIAN CAPABILITIES TO DO SO ARE SEVERELY LIMITED AND PROBABLY NONEXISTANT. STILL, IN SUGGESTING THAT ANGOLAN SITUATION CONSTITUTES THREAT TO ZAMBIAN SECURITY AS WELL AS ZAMBIAN ECONOMY, PRESIDENT MAY BE LAYING BASIS TO SEEK HIS MILITARY'S SUPPORT FOR SOME MUCH MORE LIMITED ZAMBIAN INVOLVEMENT SUCH AS ASSIST-

ANCE TO UNITA WHICH IS ONLY ONE OF THREE ANGOLAN MOVEMENTS
NOW ON GOOD TERMS WITH ZAMBIA.
LORD

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